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**PATENT**

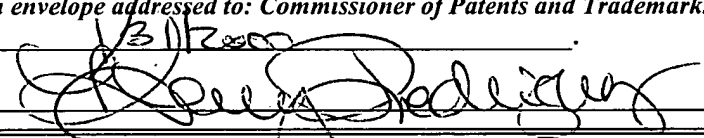
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Group Art Unit: )  
Examiner: )  
Serial No.: )  
Inventor(s): Steven Antosz )  
Cheryl Cowherd )  
Filed: )  
For: **VEHICLE SUPPLY CHAIN ANALYSIS** )  
**SYSTEM** )  
Attorney Ref.: 99-879 / 0364-001242 )

**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT**

JC690 U.S. PRO  
09/494690  
01/31/00

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u></b></p> <p><i>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on</i></p> <p>By <u></u></p>
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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

**I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, OR OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications, and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except U.S. patent applications) are listed on HDP-1449 (based on Form PTO-1449), attached hereto.

**II. COPIES**

a. X Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, except that no copy of a U.S. patent application is included.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on PTO-1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

- a. X Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. §122.

Serial No.

Filing Date

Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b): (check one box)

- a. X within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$240.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

VI. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check one box)

- before the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$240.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

b. \_\_\_\_\_ See the certification below. No fee is required.

VII. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d): (check one box)

- after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ See the certification below and the petition requesting consideration of the IDS attached hereto. A fee in the amount of \$240.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

VIII. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

a. \_\_\_\_\_ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)); or

b. \_\_\_\_\_ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2)).

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after

making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

IX. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$240.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 03-1800.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/31/2000

By: John V. Biernacki  
John V. Biernacki, Reg. No. 40511

**Please direct all questions and correspondence to:**

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Enclosures:   x   PTO-1449  
                         PTO-892  
                    x   References  
                         Foreign Search Report  
                         Fee  
                         Other: